

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for distributing information which includes a signature,
2 the method comprising steps of:
3 generating the signature over first information and second information;
4 sending the first information over a network;
5 sending the second information over the network separately from the step
6 of sending the first information; and
7 sending the signature over the network separately from at least one of the
8 first information and the second information.

1 2. The method for distributing information of claim 1, wherein the
2 first information comprises an authorization data structure and the second information
3 comprises a software object.

1 3. The method for distributing information of claim 1, further
2 comprising a step of appending the signature to the first information.

1 4. The method for distributing information of claim 1, determining
2 which resources a software object in the second information is entitled to interact with.

1 5. The method for distributing information of claim 1, wherein the
2 step of sending second information comprises a step of waiting a predetermined time
3 period after the step of sending the first information before sending the second
4 information.

1 6. The method for distributing information of claim 1, wherein the
2 first information includes authorization information for an associated software object.

1 7. The method for distributing information of claim 1, wherein:
2 the step of sending the first information comprises transmitting the first
3 information over a first transmission pathway,
4 the step of sending the second information comprises transmitting the
5 second information over a second transmission pathway different from the first
6 transmission pathway, and

7 the step of sending the signature comprises transmitting the signature over
8 a third transmission pathway different from at least one of the first and second
9 transmission pathways.

- 3 receiving first information from a network;
- 4 receiving second information from the network separately from the step of
- 5 receiving the first information;

6 receiving a signature separately from the network from at least one of the
7 first and second information; and

authenticating the signature over the first and second information.

3 the step of receiving first information comprises receiving the first
4 information from a first transmission pathway,

5 the step of receiving second information comprises receiving the second
6 information from a second transmission pathway different from the first transmission
7 pathway, and

8 the step of receiving a signature comprises receiving the signature from a
9 third transmission pathway different from at least one of the first and second transmission
10 pathways.

3 correlating the first information to the second information; and
4 correlating the signature to the first information and second information.

1 13. The method for detecting modification of information of claim 8,
2 further comprising a step of checking the first information for an authorization
3 corresponding to the second information.

1 14. A conditional access system for detecting modification of
2 information, comprising:
3 an information object;
4 authorization information, wherein a signature is generated over the
5 information object and the authorization information.

1 15. The conditional access system of claim 14, further comprising an
2 authorization message which includes the authorization information and the signature.

1 16. The conditional access system of claim 15, wherein the
2 authorization message includes a plurality of signatures.

1 17. The conditional access system of claim 16, wherein each of the
2 plurality of signatures uses a different signing algorithm.

1 18. The conditional access system of claim 14, wherein the
2 authorization information includes authorization tiers which pre-authorize a plurality of
3 information objects.

1 19. The conditional access system of claim 14, wherein the information
2 object is sent separately over a network from the authorization information.

1 20. The conditional access system of claim 14, wherein:
2 the information object uses a first transmission pathway to a set top box,
3 the authorization information uses a second transmission pathway to the
4 set top box that is different from the first transmission pathway, and
5 the signature uses a third transmission pathway to the set top box that is
6 different from at least one of the first and second transmission pathways.